

Synopsis - Revised

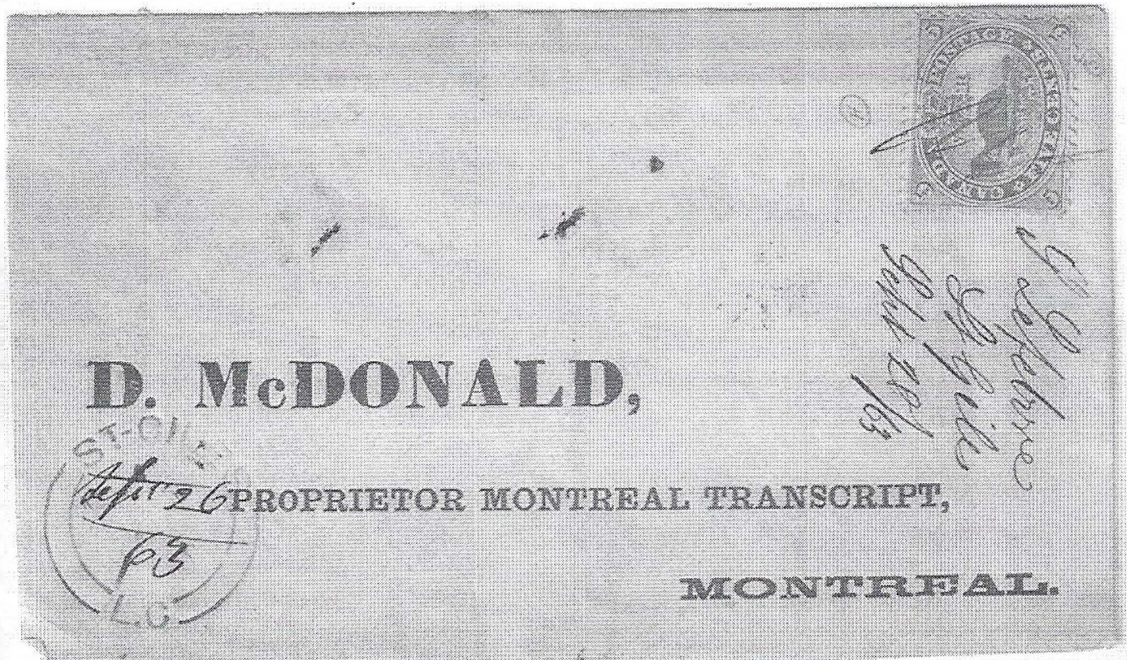
**THE MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT COVERS: 1860 – 1865
THE FIRST USE OF A REPLY ENVELOPE?**

The objective of this 1 frame exhibit is to describe the special envelopes that were used in the 1860s as return-reply vehicles for the payment of a subscription to this Montreal newspaper.

The Montreal Transcript was a paper that was owned and operated by D. McDonald in Montreal. He sent his publication to many different people in a large number of towns and cities in what was Upper and Lower Canada. He developed a method of pre-payment for the newspaper that involved the return by the customer of the fee in a specially designed and printed envelope. Most of the returned letters were registered as cash was sent back to the Transcript.

There will be a description of the newspaper, which began publishing in 1836, changed hands in about 1865 and soon after appears to have stopped being published. A detailed description of the envelopes used with numerous examples will be presented. Also a number of rare postmarks will be displayed. A comprehensive list of known covers will also be presented.

NOTE: After many hours of research it was concluded that there is NO information available from any philatelic publications. This necessitated a speculative approach to the topic. It is clear that we have a bit of a mystery on our hands and perhaps by exposing this to the philatelic world we can discover more about these fascinating philatelic objects.



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